

Bangalore Mirror

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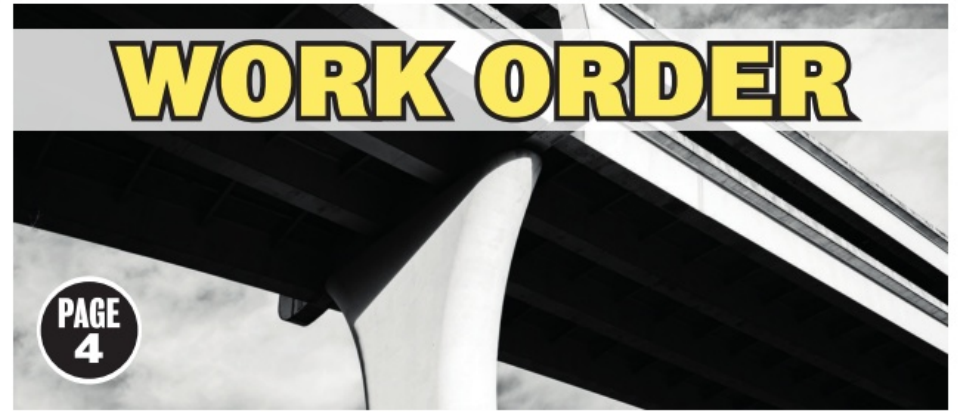
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ART RURAL



PAGE 2

WORK ORDER



PAGE 4

'Drive to free trees of nails and unwanted junk such as overhead cables losing momentum'

NAILS, NOT OUT OF OF THE WOODS, YET

Citizen group approaching forest dept to revive #nailfreetreebengaluru campaign

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It's a common sight in the city: tree trunks hammered in with nails and ridden with staple pins to hang advertisements and posters; or cables wound up on branches overhead.

Meanwhile, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's campaign to make trees nail-free has seen far less momentum in the past six months, according to citizen group Bengaluru Hudugaru.

So, the group is now approaching the forest department for relief.

In 2020, the BBMP had launched the initiative to make city trees free of nails, staples, rods, and other unwanted objects. The initiative was launched by then BBMP commissioner N Manjunath Prasad.

At the campaign launch, Prasad had stated that using trees for advertising would be considered a criminal offence and would result in stern action. BBMP had launched the campaign in collaboration with the Bangalore Political Action Committee (BPAC).

The campaign took off drawing inspiration from the work of Bengaluru Hudugaru.

The group came together after a rather curious incident. Vinod Kartavya, founder of Bengaluru Hudugaru and member of BPAC, was one day conversing on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>



"Till now, we have conducted the campaign for 40 weeks and removed around 13,000 nails from 1,500 trees"

— Vinod Kartavya, founder, Bengaluru Hudugaru

K'taka tops spousal violence: Survey

48% of women surveyed in state said they had experienced physical, sexual or emotional spousal violence



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Karnataka may be one of the most progressive states in the country. That said, the state comes first in terms of spousal violence too. According to the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) of which the results were announced recently, Karnataka stands first in spousal violence. According to the survey, 48% of the women surveyed in the state said they had experienced physical, sexual or emotional spousal violence. Karnataka is followed by Bihar where 43% of women were experiencing spousal violence. The least spousal violence was reported from Lakshadweep.

The report said that fear of husband and spousal violence are highly correlated. "Women who say that they are afraid of their husbands most of the time are most likely to have experienced spousal violence, followed by women who are sometimes afraid of their husbands. Even those women who say that they are never afraid of their husbands had experienced spousal violence," the report stated adding that women's experience of any physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence varied greatly across the country. For women who were interviewed, spousal violence first occurred

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Virtual camp time

T3E Home School is organising An Online Summer Camp Programme conducted by specialised online experts for 5 to 12 year-olds. The summer camp will include dancing, fireless cooking, fun and tricks with numbers, DIY science experiments, storytelling, robotics, yoga, gardening, art and craft and more. Enroll your kids ASAP for a cool and safe virtual summer. **When:** Until May 11; **Where:** Online
For registration call: 7829136768



02 Bond over writing

Been wanting to brush up on your writing skills? Beloved author Ruskin Bond is hosting a writing workshop on Unlu that will guide through the basics of writing. The 23-lesson course will have each session for 2 hours 30 minutes and participants will get their credentials two hours prior to the workshop. **Where:** UNLU website; **Register:** Rs 999, bookmyshow.com

03 Get yours hands dirty

Attend a trial workshop or sign up for a nine-session-long pottery class to learn how to handle a potter's wheel and mould beautiful ceramic and clay pieces. This is just the therapeutic hobby for you if you're an artsy soul. **When:** Ongoing;

Cost: Rs 1,400; **Where:** Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
Register: bookmyshow.com



Mother's Day special

Actor and politician Tara Anuradha was spotted distributing clothes and food among poor and orphan women in the memory of her mother Pushpa T on the occasion of International Mother's Day, at Gangamma Temple, Doddigunta, in Cox Town on Sunday. It may be noted, Pushpa only passed away less than a month ago in a private hospital in Mysuru at 76. Pushpa was living with Tara at her JP Nagar residence in Bengaluru for many years and played a key role in Tara reaching greater heights in her career, TOI had reported.

Revival of the arts

NFT creators, digital artists collaborate with traditional artists to save, promote unique artforms from various states, help artists get better price

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A community of Non-Fungible Token (NFT) creators are planning to bring rural artforms into their network in a bid to promote unique artists from different parts of the state. By transforming the rural artforms into NFTs, the artists will be able to monetise their art better.

In the digital age, the artisan community practising traditional rural art is suffering and artists are finding it difficult to find aficionados who would pay premium prices for their work. Naturally some artforms are on the brink of erasure and in dire need of a revival.

NFT group NamastheyNFT has announced a unique initiative to help artists by including them in the world of NFTs. It will be a joint venture between artists and NFT creators. Art works will be converted into NFTs during a two-day mega summit between May 14 and 15.

"Currently, we have asked a group to bring in transitional artists. It will be a collaborative process where digital artists will create a 3D digital version of the traditional pieces. All art forms will be sold for 0.25 ETH and only a copy will be issued per piece. The sales will be split equally between digital artists and the traditional artists," said Rahul, a member of the NamastheyNFT group.

"Potentially, we could have picked any artform but we chose artforms that are unique



Art works to be converted to NFTs



from each state. For the event, we are bringing in three artists from Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh to promote Cheriya paintings, Banarasi wooden toys, and Tholu Bommalata leathercrafts. This is a

testament to the potential of digital platforms to empower artists. For example, Cheriya folk art can cost between 500 to a several thousand but with NFTs the profit per piece can be multiplied. The digital process also ensures better remuneration for traditional artists. The Cheriya paintings will be prepared by Saikiran Verma who is a fourth-generation artisan and one of the youngest recipients of the State Award for Handicrafts from the Government of Telangana for his work in Cheriya paintings.

The art will carry a contemporary twist retaining the traditional style to keep it relevant," said Founder of Craftizen May-

ura Balasubramanian who is a part of the group bringing in the artists for the summit.

People will be able to buy NFTs as well as own the works in their physical form.

"The basic design for the art form will be kept ready and the digital designer will prepare the digital version to be made into an NFT," said Mayank Tiwari, Co-Founder, NamastheyNFT.

He said this is the first time that any Indian community is presenting international collectors. "We are showcasing 800 artists across different countries with 10 collectors and the entire work will amount to 65 ETH which roughly translates to 185,000 USD," added Tiwari.

Sunny side up for city's railway stations

Solar panels help railways save ₹1.96 crore

The two major city railway stations-KSR Bengaluru City and Yeswanthpur stations are now turning into green energy zones by tapping into solar energy. Solar panels have been installed at these stations and the railways claim that the power generated via these panels have been helping the railways to cut down the power bills.

It has always been a challenge for the South Western Railways (SWR) to tap green energy.

In fact, even today, most of the trains are still run using diesel while electrification is slowly picking up. Now, the railway zone claims that 70% of its electricity requirement of SSS Hubballi station during the year 2021-22 was met through solar energy.

Railway officials said that SWR has installed a total of 4,656.60 KWp solar panels including solar panels at 120 stations rooftop (covering all major stations including SSS Hubballi, KSR Bengaluru, Mysuru and Yeswanthpur stations).

"In addition, 295 Level Crossing gates are provided with solar panels. The solar electricity generation during last financial year in SWR was 46.11 Lakh Units resulting in saving in electricity bills to the tune of Rs. 1.96 crore. It's estimated that nearly 70% of electricity requirement of SSS Hubballi station during the year 2021-22 (total energy consumption- 4.8 Lakh Units) was met through solar energy. Around 83% of energy requirement of Hubballi workshop (with second highest energy consumption in SWR of 13.51 Lakh Units) was being met from solar energy. Around 60% of energy requirement of Hubballi EMD shed with 1.13 Lakh unit annual consumption was being met from solar power," said a railway official.

In the year 2021-22, 80 KWp so-



Solar panels have been installed at the KSR Bengaluru City and Yeswanthpur Railway stations. The hope is that if a large part of the stations' electricity needs is taken care of by solar power, it can help prune bills

lar panels were installed at Bengaluru Divisional Railway Manager's Office which has generated 94,115 units of energy during the last financial year resulting in a savings of Rs. 4.25 lakh.

From the 100 KWp Solar installation at Mysuru Divisional Railway Manager's Office, 1.28 Lakh Units of energy have been generated during 2021-22 which has resulted in a

saving of Rs.5.11 lakh. Around 80 KWp Solar Panels at Yeswanthpur railway station have generated 0.95 Lakh Units and 110 KWp Solar Panel at Mysuru Railway Station has generated 1.42 Lakh Units. These stations altogether generated savings of Rs. 21.42 lakh.

SWR General Manager Sanjeev Kishore said, "We are now planning

"We are now planning to install solar panels further at 26 stations" — Sanjeev Kishore
SWR General Manager

to install solar panels further at 26 stations in the present financial year." — Prakash VL



Painting the town red

A group of college students and members of the Pulikeshinagar Residents Welfare Association (PNRWA) & Frazer Town Residents Welfare Association (FTRWA) clean and beautify a black spot on Mosque Road on Sunday

10 police personnel suspended in PSI recruitment exam scam

State government has been giving assurance of impartial probe

YS Ravikumar, Commissioner of Police, Kalaburagi, on Saturday suspended ten police personnel in connection with the PSI recruitment scam.

Earlier on Thursday, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai assured an impartial probe in connection with the alleged scam and all those involved will be booked and brought to justice.

Earlier on April 29, the Karnataka government decided to cancel the results of the police sub-inspector (PSI) recruitment exam following allegations of corruption.

The government had stat-



On May 3, Bangalore Mirror had reported that the CID was focusing its probe on the main accused Divya Hagaragi and her educational institution

ed that a fresh exam will be re-conducted and the dates for which will be announced soon.

The Karnataka Home Minister had said that the Crime Investigation Team (CID) arrested the main accused, BJP leader Divya Hagaragi and

four others in connection with the Sub-Inspector (PSI) recruitment exam scam. Divya, who was absconding in the case, was arrested from Pune on Thursday night.

What's the scam

The PSI scam case is related to the irregularities in the appointment of police sub-inspectors in the state. MLA and former Minister Priyank Kharge had alleged that there was a huge scam in the PSI recruitment of more than 545 candidates and that the Home Minister, along with the government and officials, are clearly involved in this. — ANI

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Palike gets green signal for MS Palya Jn Flyover

Proposed flyover to help many travelling to airport, Yelahanka once completed

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Those travelling towards Yelahanka or the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) from Northwest Bengaluru dread crossing the Mahboob Saab (MS) Palya junction. There was a proposal to construct a grade separator but it was put on hold. But the new BBMP Chief Commissioner, Tushar Girinath, said the civic agency has now received a green signal from the state government for the construction of a grade separator under the Nagarothana scheme.

"Tenders will be called soon and we will see to it once the process is underway that a grade separator will be constructed," he said.

The terrible traffic woes at MS Palya junction have only worsened in recent years. It is the road connecting many to the airport via Yelahanka and many travelling to the airport get stuck here. As per the plans, BBMP wants to construct a four-lane bi-directional flyover at the junction which will ensure seamless traffic between Jalahalli East and Yelahanka Road.

The MS Palya junction connects to Jalahalli East campus, which connects Jalahalli West and Yeshwanthpur via Gangamma Circle and Hesaraghatta Road via Byalakere. Singapura (Abbigere) Road too is connected to the junction.

The traffic jam, during peak hours, extends up to half a kilometre. The authorities have tried every trick in the book to decongest the junction. First, they tried to do so with the help of personnel but that didn't work. The installation of a traffic signal only made matters worse. Then, the police along with BBMP tried to widen the junction but it hardly



BBMP must build the flyover with careful consideration experts said

reflected any improvement.

The proposed flyover may really help deal with the traffic issues between Jalahalli and Yelahanka while the traffic towards Hesaraghatta and Singapura may go below the flyover. Meanwhile, experts warned BBMP that it needs to be careful while designing the flyover as the road from Jalahalli to Yelahanka is quite curved towards the right side.

Earlier, BBMP had temporarily halted the flyover project at the junction after the Indian Air Force (IAF) announced closure of the crucial stretch that connects the junction as the Air Force Station in Jalahalli had displayed a board outside its gate

stating that the road from Gangamma Circle to Zumzum Gate was closed for public use.

Making way in Yelahanka

For those heading to the airport, the next big hurdle after crossing MS Palya is a series of bottlenecks around Yelahanka. For this purpose, an integrated flyover is being constructed at Yelahanka. This project consists of a 1.8-kilometre-long flyover from the Yelahanka police station junction to the Yelahanka New Town BWSSB junction at a cost of Rs 175 crore. Once the project is completed, it will be a relief to motorists as they will be able to skip the police station junction, the Seshadripuram College

Tenders will be called soon and we will see to it once the process is underway that a grade separator will be constructed

— Tushar Girinath,
Chief Commissioner, BBMP

junction and the BWSSB junction. Girinath who inspected the site on Sunday said the project is being taken up in phases. He instructed the contractors to speed up the work with minimum inconvenience to road users.

Life's a climb for Priyanka Mohite



Priyanka Mohite at Kanchenjunga

Priyanka Mohite took up a big challenge in 2013 and finally fulfilled it in May 2022; over nine difficult years the 30-year-old mountaineer, who works with a Bengaluru company, worked towards her dream, which no other Indian woman has ever achieved, of climbing five mountains of 8,000 metre and above height.

In 1975 when Junko Tabei of Japan became the first woman in the world to climb Mount Everest, she conquered what was till then a male bastion -- a challenge considered too tough for the weaker of the sexes.

Since then, many women have climbed Mount Everest and many similar peaks, conquering male bastions in mountaineering -- and

other fields too.

This week Priyanka, the woman climber from Satara district in Maharashtra, fulfilled her dream of becoming the first Indian woman to climb five mountains of 8,000 metres and above.

Priyanka, who works for a pharmaceutical research company in Bengaluru, climbed Mount Kanchenjunga, at 8,586 metres above sea level, the third highest mountain on earth, on Thursday (May 5) at around 4.52 pm.

Many hurdles along the way Priyanka, a recipient of the prestigious Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award in 2020, set the record by climbing Mount Everest in 2013, Mount Lhotse in 2018, and Mount Makalu in 2019, Annapurna 1 in 2021, and completed the monu-

mental challenge by summiting Mount Kanchenjunga on May 5, 2022. She is the first Indian woman to climb Annapurna 1 and Makalu.

For most people not well-versed with the world of mountaineering, these were only five mountains. But for those really in the know, Priyanka had to cross many more mountains on the way -- hurdles that may not be as high but not insignificant either.

She was thwarted by the natural disaster in Nepal in 2014-15, the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, financial hardship due to lack of sponsors and societal pressures that women face every day. But she was determined enough to conquer all and also the five 8000ers.

— IANS

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Good news Rajajinagar



A traffic booth in 6th Block was a hindrance for many in Rajajinagar. After BM shared the problem in this column, it was removed by the police, a reader wrote to the newspaper.

Patchwork wanted Vidhana Soudha



This patch on the road has been left unattended for six months. Will BBMP repair it before motorists are hurt due to it?

Clean sweep needed Fraser Town



Many vendors abuse public property by littering around their street shops on Mosque Road.

Tender look: Panel to examine projects above ₹50 cr

The Karnataka government on Sunday said it has constituted a 'Tender Scrutiny Committee' headed by a retired High Court judge, aimed at bringing transparency and curb irregularities in the tendering process. The committee headed by Justice Rathnakala has been mandated to scrutinise all tenders above Rs 50 crore according to the guidelines already issued to curb irregularities in the tendering process.

The move for transparency has come at a time when the BJP government in the state is facing allegations of corruption, including the '40 per cent commission' charge from contractors to get the payment released for the projects completed. Recently, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had ordered a complete stop to awarding government projects based on the oral instructions from ministers and elected repre-

sentatives, and had warned erring officers of strong action. This follows the death of Santosh Patil, a contractor from Belagavi, who allegedly died by suicide, blaming former Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Minister K S Eshwarappa for holding up payment of Rs 4 crore, 0 due to him. Retired Secretary of Water Resources Department B G Gurupadaswamy (expert engineer) and Retired Director of State Accounts and Audit Department K Nandakumar (finance expert) have been appointed as the members of the committee, the CM's office said in a statement. The panel has been constituted in accordance with the government order issued last December.

Panel for backward classes

The state government has also constituted a Commission headed by Justice Bhaktavatsala to



BJP government has been facing allegations of corruption from contractors

conduct a study on suitable political representation for Backward Classes.

Retired IAS officer CR Chikmath has been appointed as the member of the Commission.

The Commission has been constituted following a Supreme Court direction in a case related to ensuring suitable representation for backward classes in Panchayat Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies.

The issue was discussed at the all party meetings held on March 23 and 31 and it was decided to hold the elections to these democratic institutions only after making provision for reservation for these communities, the CMO said.

The Commission would make suitable recommendations after studying the political backwardness of backward classes in these democratic institutions, it said. **-PTI**

No elbow room for cyclists, motorists

As traffic is diverted due to Metro work on ORR, Mahadevapura road is badly congested

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For Mahadevapura residents, there is no end in sight to road woes. They are facing issues of congestion for over two months between Doddanekundi flyover and Mahadevapura flyover. According to the commuters, the issue began after Metro construction work started on the Outer Ring Road.

"After the Metro construction work began on ORR and the main stretch between Doddanekundi and Mahadevapura flyover was occupied, most of the traffic was diverted to the service road. However, soon after that, the officials decided to create a bicycle lane on the same stretch reducing the width of the service road further that was already choked with diverted traffic," said a resident of Mahadevapura.

When the residents raised complaints regarding congestion due to the bicycle lane, the bollards were removed from the bottlenecks, creating a patchy bicycle lane.

"We raised the issue of bicycle bollards with traffic police and BBMP and we were directed towards the Directorate of Urban Transport (DULT) official. We requested the DULT official to remove the bollards and put them only when the infrastructure work is completed. However, they decided to remove them from the bottlenecks only, creating a disconnected bicycle lane," said Sandeep Shetty, a resident.

Upon inquiry, the residents were informed that the bicycle lane bollards cannot be removed completely as the fund implementation has already been approved by the central government.



Footpaths are encroached every 50 metres or so. There are multiple scrap yards and other shops on the stretch that have dumped debris on sidewalks

—Resident of Mahadevapura

Cyclists using the stretch say that the lane is being used by two-wheelers and it is not safe to cycle.

After cycling for ten meters or so, one has to stop and give way to two-wheelers that are incessantly honking. "I had to stop every few minutes to give way to motor vehicles. Moreover, it is too narrow for cyclists to use it both ways. The lane can accommodate only one bicycle at one time," said Deepak kurapati, a resident of Mahadevapura.

While the service road has been narrowed down and flooded with vehicles already, the footpaths have been encroached at several places in the area.

"Footpaths are encroached every 50 metres or so. There are multiple scrap yards and other shops on the stretch that have dumped the debris on sidewalks. We raised the issue with BBMP officials through their complaint app. The officials responded by saying that the encroachment will



Metro work, encroachments, cycle lane and traffic jostle for space on the road

be removed and a drive will be taken up soon. But nothing has happened so far. The encroachment has been there for months now. One can spot hundreds of such encroachments across various stretches in the area," said another resident.

With the main roads occupied by BMRL, footpaths encroached and the service road congested with a bicycle lane and diverted traffic, pedestrians have no choice but to get down on the service road.

"People walk on the road as footpaths are encroached completely. There have already been a couple of accidents on the stretch in the last two months or so. We have been reaching out to the officials, but encroachment has not been removed yet," said Shetty.

According to BBMP officials, they have received the residents' complaints, and the drive to free the footpaths from encroachment will soon begin.

Fire safety audit in govt hospitals

Officials of 166 district and taluka government hospitals across Karnataka, have been instructed to conduct a fire safety audit of their premises and receive an NOC from the State Fire and Emergency Service, an official statement said on Sunday.

The circular by Health Commissioner also said that the hospitals will be granted Rs 50,000 each under Rashtriya Aarogya Abhiyan. The development comes in the wake of Karnataka Health Minister K Sudhakar's instruction to his department on Sunday.

The move was quickly initiated by Sudhakar after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a video conference recently with Chief Ministers, suggested conduct of a fire safety audit as incidents of fire accidents had increased due to summer heat.

Out of the 166 hospitals that have been instructed to conduct the audit, there are 16 district hospitals and 150 taluk hospitals. The hospital officials have been given a deadline of May 21 to submit an action taken report, an official said. **-IANS**

Prez polls: Eyes on JD(S) move

The approaching presidential polls have once again put the spotlight on which way the Janata Dal (Secular) will vote in Karnataka. In the only southern state where the national parties, BJP and Congress are directly ranged against each other, the JD(S) has occasionally emerged as a kingmaker.

Over time, the party founded and headed by former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda, has largely remained confined to Karnataka. During this period, it has separately formed government in the state with either of these national parties on different occasions. Currently, with the BJP enjoying a comfortable majority in the 224 seat Assembly, the JD(S) with 32 seats is biding its time till the elections due early next year. Political analyst Ramakrishna Upadhyaya feels that the JD(S) may use the presidential polls to send out their messaging to the electorate. "It will be about posturing. They may try to say we are against the BJP. We are for the Muslims and secularism. They could even vote with the other group too. With Assembly elections due soon, they will try to set themselves apart from the BJP." As far as Lok Sabha votes are concerned, the BJP is in the driver's seat, with 25 of the 28 seats in its kitty. It can also bank on the vote of the sole independent candidate, actor Sumalatha, the wife of late Ambareesh. The remaining two seats are with the Congress and JD(S). **-IANS**

A violent family portrait

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in relation to the start of marriage for women married only once. This suggests that a large proportion of spousal violence begins early on post marriage.

The report stated that women suffer from various types of injuries during spousal violence like cuts, bruises, aches, severe burns, eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, amongst other serious injuries. For maximum women -- 22% of them have recorded this -- cuts, bruises, or aches are the most common types of injuries. Around seven per cent of the women across the country have reported eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns while six per cent have had deep wounds, broken bones, or broken teeth. Three per cent of women are even subjected to burns.

During the survey, many women recalled how they tackle the violence.



Among the women who have experienced physical or sexual violence and sought help, 58% said the most common source of help was their own family. The second most common source of help was the husband's family, said 27% of women who were surveyed. Around

18% of the women sought help from a friend. Nine per cent women sought institutional sources of help, most common being the police, followed by two per cent reaching out to a religious leader. Only two per cent each

ever sought help from a doctor, medical personnel or lawyer.

According to the survey, 82.9% of married women who have complained of spousal violence have been targeted by their husbands or partners. Around 8.8% of women said the violence is from a former husband or partner, 0.2% reported violence from a current boyfriend and 0.1% from a former boyfriend.

du Plessis, Hasaranga and Karthik star in Bangalore's 67-run thrashing of Hyderabad

Faf du Plessis anchored the innings with an unbeaten 73 while Dinesh Karthik provided a grandstand finish with a sensational eight-ball 30 and leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga scalped 5/18 as Royal Challengers Bangalore thrashed Sunrisers Hyderabad by 67 runs at the Wankhede Stadium here on Sunday. After du Plessis and Karthik, with contributions from Rajat Patidar and Glenn Maxwell, took Bangalore to a daunting 192/3.

Hyderabad's batting order wilted under scoreboard pressure, crashing to 125 all out in 19.2 overs. Barring Rahul Tripathi's incredible 58 and some big hits from Aiden Markram and Nicholas Pooran, Hyderabad were comprehensively outclassed by Bangalore in their fourth straight defeat of the tournament.

Bangalore's innings had an inauspicious start as Virat Kohli flicked a full ball straight to short mid-wicket off left-arm spinner Jagadeesha Suchith. It was also Kohli's second golden duck against Hyderabad and third of this season.

du Plessis and Patidar took care of scoring in power-play after Kohli's fall with boundaries coming consistently. The duo took a liking to extra pace of left-arm seamer Kartik Tyagi, hitting him for two fours and a six in the final over of power-play. Patidar was the main aggressor, smacking Suchith for a six over long-off and stood tall to punch Umran Malik through extra cover for four.

Du Plessis caught up with



Faf du Plessis, with teammates Glenn Maxwell and Virat Kohli, during the match between Sunrisers Hyderabad and Royal Challengers Bangalore, at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday

Patidar, hammering Malik through mid-off for four and earning a reprieve on the very next ball when Rahul Tripathi couldn't catch his pull and conceded a boundary. He ended the over with a pulled six



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over long-on to take 20 off Malik's first over. With Tyagi and Malik going for plenty in their opening over, Hyderabad had to turn to sixth bowling option in Abhishek Sharma's left-arm spin. But that didn't stop du Plessis and Patidar from bringing the century of the partnership apart from the Bangalore skipper reaching his fifty

with a four through extra cover off Tyagi. Hyderabad's chase began on an unfortunate note, losing their opening pair of Sharma and Kane Williamson for nought in the span of first five balls. While Williamson was run-out by a direct hit from Shahbaz Ahmed with his bat on the line, Sharma was castled by a slider from Maxwell, rattling his off-stump. Markram and Tripathi joined forces for a fifty-run partnership off 45 balls, hitting six boundaries between themselves before the former holed out to deep mid-wicket off Hasaranga. But the leg-spinner came back to have Jagadeesha Suchith stumped and when Tripathi pulled straight to deep square leg off Josh Hazlewood, the result was a foregone conclusion.

IAN

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I, Nakul S Kulkarni alias Nakul Shriranga Kulkarni S/o S K Kulkarni R/o #344, S-101, Ram Basil, HIG, Sec-A, Phase-2 13th 'A' Main, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore -560064 have changed my name to Nakul Kulkarni for all purposes.

I, Mitral Mridul, D/O M M Biswas, Flat B 323, 3rd Floor, DS Max Solitaire Apartment, Banjara layout, Horamavu Agra, Horamavu, Bangalore-560043, has changed my name to Mitral Biswas for all future purposes.

I, Parimala S Kulkarni alias Parimala Shriranga Kulkarni W/o S K Kulkarni R/o #344, S-101, Ram Basil, HIG, Sec-A, Ph-2, 13th 'A' Main, Yelahanka New Town, B'lore -560064 have changed my name to Parimala Kulkarni for all purposes.

I, Pratik Binod Mohanty S/O Vinod Mohanty born on 14/11/98 have changed my name to Pratik Vinod Mohanty vide affidavit dated 07/05/2022 at Tumkur

I, SARIN S DEV, S/o Kirshan Sahadevan, R/o 12/9, 3rd Floor, Room #304, Holy Cross School Main Road, Hope Farm Signal, Near Prashanth Layout, Abhayadhama Road, ITPL Main Road, Whitefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka -560066 have changed my name as SARIN SAHADEVAN, dated 09.05.2022

I, Archana Gannamanani, W/o Muralidhar Kolli and resident at 1182/26, Chamundeswari Nivas, 4th Floor, 4th Cross, 6th Main, Aecs Layout, D Block, Bengaluru-560037, Karnataka, have changed my name from ARCHANA GANNAMANANI to ARCHANA KOLLI, vide affidavit dated 06.05.2022 sworn before notary O.S. Chengappa, Bengaluru.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Anisha Koshy, R/O 72, Andrahalli, Bangalore-560091 have changed my name from NOSHA to ANISHA KOSHY for future purposes.

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WELLNESS

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Not a wood job!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

phone in front of his house in Sampangi Rama Nagar. While leaning on the tree, something poked him: a nailhead protruding out of the tree. He immediately proceeded to remove it. Kartavya eventually realised that this was a problem spread across Bengaluru.

"During Saturday and Sundays, we started removing the nails along with a couple of friends. We formed the team Bengaluru Hudugaru and started a social media campaign to identify trees ridden with nails. Social media users were requested to post pictures of trees with cables and nails with hashtag #nailfreetree-bengaluru. Soon, the campaign grew and became viral with many celebrities and government officials pitching in. Till now, we have conducted the campaign for 40 weeks in different parts of the city and removed around 13,000 nails from 1,500 trees. As per the Karnataka Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, 1981, it is

illegal to post advertisements on trees and as per the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976, this would be construed as tree vandalism," said Kartavya.

Campaigners also filed complaints at police stations during nail-free drives. "We have filed 12 FIRs in different wards of the city. Some people even had to pay fines thereafter," he added.

With the success of the campaign, it was soon adopted by the BBMP, to be taken forward.

"In 2020, BBMP issued a circular against posting advertisements on trees. It was clearly defined, what harms a tree -- piercing nails, using staples, sticking posters, inserting construction roads, lighting, etc. Within seven days of the public notice, offenders had to remove the unwanted objects or face legal action. In 2021, a tree task force was formed in all the eight zones. But there has been hardly any action taken," said Kartavya.

When BBMP adopted the campaign, the citizen group halted all drives hoping the civic body would

lead the change. "For some time, there was general awareness about the subject and people refrained from doing it. But now it has started cropping up again. We have put in a lot of work into this campaign and spent around 1.5 years. We have decided to run the campaign again," he added.

"No cases were booked; we have been encouraging them to remove the nails from trees," assistant conservator of forests, BBMP, V Govindraju confirmed.

As a last lifeline, the citizen group approached the Karnataka Forest Department to take legal action against offenders. "We met with Karnataka Principal Chief Conservator of Forests RK Singh and requested to provide notice to all range officers to eliminate the problem," Kartavya told BM.

Within a week, the notice is expected to be circulated and action initiated.

"After one week, our team will appeal to range forest officers to perform their duty. Following this, we will make a second request. If the officers fail to take action, we will file an RTI seeking information on action taken against illegal posters. Based on the RTI, we are planning to file a PIL," added Kartavya.



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Come join the joy EV ride

Soon travel in e-buses from Bengaluru to other cities

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Electric buses that are currently being operated on intra-city routes may soon be used for inter-city routes as well. The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) is busy making plans to introduce these e-buses to far off areas. As of now, there are plans to introduce e-buses from Bengaluru to Davangere, Shivamogga, Mysuru, Madikeri, Chikkamagaluru and Virajpet.

Sources in the KSRTC said that the e-buses will be a boon to the cash-strapped transport corporation which is reeling under the severe increase in diesel prices. Instead of buying brand new buses which may add to the financial burden, the transport body may go for hiring buses from a private body. As per the arrangement, KSRTC may pay Rs 52 per kilometre (inclusive of charging cost) to the private agency. The latter will be responsible for maintenance as well as for providing drivers. KSRTC will deploy conductors who issue tickets at the current rates. KSRTC officials said that this kind of arrangement will help the KSRTC save on fuel as well as from the maintenance cost. However, a lot depends on the patronage of the passengers which may prove make-or-break to the success of the e-bus model. The e-buses will be first run on pilot basis and based on the success of the charge range, the buses may be operated on fully fledged basis.

However, KSRTC has to learn a lot from the BMTC which is facing issues with e-buses. The operation



of electric buses created a huge loss to the organisation. BMTC had leased 90 electric buses by NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd after receiving funds from Bengaluru Smart City Limited. Currently, BMTC is paying Rs.51.67 per km.

But these buses are not generating enough revenue. These electric buses started operations on December 27. On the first day, six buses started operating and gradually increased to 26 buses. The company provided all the 90 buses. But due to a lack of charging facilities, the operations did not start at full capacity. BMTC decided to operate 30 buses each from KR Puram, Yeshwanthpur, and Kengeri depots. Due to a lack of charging facilities, 64 buses stand idle for four months in depots.

As per the agreement, electric buses must travel at least 180 km daily. BMTC must pay Rs.9,300 per bus for 180 km per day. The 26

buses operating are operating on average per day of 173 km. Due to this, electric buses have turned out to be white elephants. So, for KSRTC, it is necessary to ensure that it doesn't end up following a BMTC model.

EVs at airport soon

Meanwhile, Electric Vehicles (EVs) are soon set to make their debut at Kempegowda International Airport. Now, there are plans to introduce electric bus shuttle operations between Terminal 1 and Terminal 2. This has raised a lot of expectations among commuters travelling to airports about green energy travel.

CHARGING POINT

Call for lower taxes on hybrid cars

Lowering taxes on hybrid vehicles can lead to faster adoption of electric vehicles in the country, said an official of Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL). The automaker noted that hybrid technology is best suited for Indian conditions as it is not dependent on external charging infrastructure. The total tax incidence on hybrid vehicles is 43 per cent, inclusive of GST, while battery electric vehicles attract a tax of about 5 per cent. "There is a big gap (in taxes). So, yes it would be a welcome step if the government could support us ..." HCIL Vice-President (Marketing and Sales) Kunal Behl said. **PTI**

'India will have 3 crore EVs in 2 years'

Union transport minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday said the number of electric vehicles in the country will go up to 3 crore in the next two years. Gadkari said India has the largest pool of young talent which must be encouraged. "In the electric scooter segment, there are about 250 startups that are working right now and they have really made good scooters and all are heavily booked," said Gadkari. "There are currently 12 lakh electric vehicles in the country. By December end, the number will go up to 40 lakh and in next two years, it will reach 3 crore," he added. **PTI**

Raging issue of electric vehicle fires

Amidst the growth of EV two-wheelers, the recent fire incidents have created a new challenge.

Recently, an electric scooter caught fire near the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border. The owner of the vehicle was a supervisor at a private firm in Bengaluru who had a narrow escape. The EV owner Satish Kumar noticed his scooter suddenly catching fire from under the seat and jumped to safety. As the vehicle went up in flames, passersby rushed to his help to douse the blaze. But the vehicle got gutted, police said. Satish had bought the electric two-wheeler last year.

In a string of such fire incidents recently, a father and his daughter died due to suffocation in Vellore district in March due to the smoke caused by the explosion of the electric bike as it was being charged. An electric two-wheeler caught fire in Manapparai in Tiruchirappalli later. Earlier this month, a man died when the detachable battery of the electric

scooter kept for charging exploded in his house in Telangana. In TN's Ambur this month, a frustrated man poured petrol on his e-scooter and set it afire as the manufacturers did not send help on time when he complained that the vehicle stopped working after 50 km. The video of the man torching his own bike went viral on social media.

Last week, electric scooter maker PURE EV, expressing deep regret over the alleged explosion of a battery of an electric scooter leading to the death of an 80-year-old man in Telangana's Nizamabad and announced that it would recall 2,000 vehicles in Nizamabad and Chennai.

Govt wants a probe

Road Transport and Highways Secretary Giridhar Aramane recently said each and every incident will be probed and asserted that the Indian EV industry is bound to prosper and grow beyond 'our imagination'. Aramane further said the Ministry of

Road, Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has achieved an overall asset monetisation value of about Rs 21,000 crore in FY22 as part of the Centre's National Monetisation Pipeline. "Each and every incident (of electric vehicles catching fire) will be probed into," he told PTI in an interview. Asked if the spate of high profile battery fires is undermining India's bid to become a leader in EVs,

“All problems of procurement, design, management, operations, manufacturing of batteries and EVs have to be examined

Aramane said not necessarily, if the manufacturers quickly establish necessary functional safety protocols, quality control and quality assurance systems. "The Indian EV industry is

bound to prosper and grow beyond our imagination," he asserted. Aramane said an expert panel that has been formed to enquire into the matter has not submitted its report.

"All the problems and the procurement, design, management, operations, manufacturing of the batteries and electric vehicles have to be examined," he said, adding that recommendations will be given.

Get it serviced right

As one more e-scooter went up in flames in Hosur, Tamil Nadu, the OEM, battery maker and dealer shared exclusive details about the incident. It has been discovered that the e-scooter, the Okinawa Praise Pro purchased last year, had not been brought for service for many months. "At the time of delivery, customers are informed about EV scooter usage, battery maintenance, and regular preventive services, and the same is also clearly stated in the company's owner's manual. We conduct vehicle

health checkup camps and awareness campaigns at regular intervals to ensure the smooth running of the vehicle," the dealer said. "Despite repeated reminders to the customer in the form of phone calls, this scooter has not been brought in for a regular service checkup for months," it added. The recent reminders were dated April 11, 18 and 26, as per the company records.

Samrath Kocher, Chief Executive Officer of Trontek Electronics Pvt. Ltd., who supplies batteries to Okinawa Autotech, stated that the battery quality and manufacturing standards follow all the regulatory guidelines. "This particular vehicle did not turn up for service for many months despite several reminders for Service checkups by CRM," a spokesperson from Okinawa Autotech said. "We are regularly doing service and awareness campaigns with our dealer partners to increase awareness on the usage of the scooters," he added.

BMB & Agencies

'Interest rate hike no surprise but timing was'

Says Finance Minister, emphasising rising cost of funds won't impact government's infrastructure investment plans

#Mumbai

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said the recent interest rate hike by the Reserve Bank was not surprising for her but the timing was, asserting that the rising cost of funds will not impact the government's planned infrastructure investments.

For the first time since August 2018, RBI had on May 4 delivered a blunt 40 basis points increase in key repo rate to 4.40 per cent, and also hiked the cash reserve ratio by 50 basis points to 4.5 per cent after an unscheduled meeting of the rate setting panel, citing increased inflation pressures following the Ukraine war and the resultant spike in crude oil prices. Retail inflation printed at 6.9 per cent in March and the April reading is forecast to top 7.7 per cent.

"The timing of RBI's rate hike came as a surprise but not the action itself as people thought it should have been done anyway....It came as a surprise because it's between the two MPCs (monetary policy committee) meetings. But the US Fed had been saying it all the while," Sitharaman said in her first reaction to the rate hike while addressing an award function organised by the Economic Times on Saturday.

She said that in the last MPC meeting, the RBI gave indications that it's time for them to also act, and the hike was part of a synchronised



The finance minister said the challenge of recovery versus inflation seems to be following a similar template across the globe

action by major central banks across the globe.

"In a way, it was a synchronised action. Australia did it, and the US did it that night. So, I see a greater understanding among central banks nowadays. But the understanding of how to handle recovery from the pandemic is not fully unique or typical for only India. It's a global issue."

"And even as we handled that recovery, inflation, which was really

festering... and festering at some unbelievable highs, let us say in the US and Britain, not so much in our country...Still, the challenge of recovery versus inflation seems to be following a particular template that's across the globe now," she said.

However, she was quick to assert that the central bank's decision will not impact the government's huge infrastructure investments running into tens of billions of dollars. — PTI

IAF's Su-30 fleet upgrade on backburner

#New Delhi

Amid the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the Indian Air Force's plans to upgrade the fleet of its Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft has been put on the backburner for now. The deal for the 12 most advanced Su-30MKI aircraft worth over Rs 20,000 crore would also be delayed slightly as the stakeholders will now have to add more Made-in-India content in the planes as per the current policy of the government to promote Indian defence products over imports, government sources said.

The Indian Air Force was planning to upgrade 85 of their planes up to the latest standards in collaboration with the Russians and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The plan has been put on the backburner for now in view of the present situation, the sources said.

The plan was to equip the Su-30 aircraft with more powerful radars and the latest electronic warfare capabilities to make it more powerful as per the latest standards, the sources said. The Su-30 MKIs form the mainstay of the Indian Air Force

as 272 of them have been ordered by the IAF in different batches as every time shortage of fighter jets in service was highlighted, the Russian manufacturers would receive an order of 30 to 40 of these planes.

The aircraft are supplied by the Russian manufacturers to the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in semi and complete knocked-down kits and then they are assembled in the Nasik facility. The ongoing conflict in Russia and Ukraine has also resulted in delays in the supply of spares for the aircraft fleet. — ANI

Bay of Bengal cyclone to intensify into storm 'Asani', may not make landfall

#Bhubaneswar

The deep depression over Southeast Bay of Bengal Sunday moved west-northwestwards with a speed of 16 kmph during the past 6 hours and intensified into a cyclonic storm 'Asani' (pronounced as Asani), IMD said.

The system lay centered at 5.30 AM over Southeast Bay of Bengal, about 450 km west-northwest of Car Nicobar (Nicobar Islands), 380 km west of Port Blair (Andaman Islands), 970 km southeast of Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and 1030 km south-southeast of Puri (Odisha).

"It is likely to move northwestwards and intensify further into a severe cyclonic storm over east central Bay of Bengal during next 24 hours," the India Meteorological Department said adding that the system is very likely to continue to move northwestwards till May 10th evening and reach West-central and adjoining Northwest Bay of Bengal off North Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coasts.

Thereafter, it is very likely to recurve north-northeastwards and move towards Northwest Bay of Bengal off Odisha coast.



Odisha Fire Services Department make preparations ahead of the forecast cyclone 'Asani', on Saturday

The IMD DG Mrutunjay Mohapatra has on Saturday made it clear the cyclone was unlikely to make landfall either in the coast of Odisha or Andhra Pradesh, but will move parallel to the coast in the sea. The IMD in its latest bulletin said that the system will remain in the form of a cyclonic storm till Sunday evening and later intensify into a severe cyclonic storm and will continue to remain in this form till May 10 night.

— PTI

Home ministry grants security clearance to Jet Airways

#New Delhi

Union home ministry has granted security clearance to Jet Airways that is planning to relaunch commercial flight operations in the next few months, according to an official document.

The Jalan-Kalrock Consortium is currently the promoters of Jet Airways. The airline in its old avatar was owned by Naresh Goyal and had operated its last flight on April 17, 2019. Last Thursday, the airline conducted its test flight to and from the Hyderabad airport in a step towards obtaining the air operator certificate. A letter sent by the civil aviation ministry to the airline on May 6 informed it about the grant of the security clearance by the Union home ministry.

The letter, which has been

accessed by PTI, said, it is "directed to refer to your application... to convey security clearance for change in shareholding pattern of the company/firm, for scheduled operator permit, on the basis of security clearance received from the Ministry of Home Affairs".

Last Thursday's test flight was conducted to prove to aviation regulator DGCA that the aircraft and its components are operating normally. After the test flight, the airline has to conduct proving flights after which the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will grant the air operator certificate. Proving flights are similar to commercial flight with DGCA officials and airline officials as passengers and cabin crew members on board.

— PTI

DNA from skeletons found in Rakhigarhi sent for analysis

#Rakhigarhi (Haryana)

A DNA samples collected from two human skeletons unearthed at a necropolis of a Harappan-era city site in Haryana have been sent for scientific examination, the outcome of which might tell about the ancestry and food habits of people who lived in Rakhigarhi region thousands of years ago.

The skeletons of two deceased women were found a couple of

months ago at mound number 7 (named RGR 7 by the Archaeological Survey of India), believed to be nearly 5,000 years old. Pots and other artefacts were also found buried next to them in a pit, part of the funerary rituals back in the Harappan Civilisation era, ASI officials said.

"Seven mounds (RGR 1- RGR 7) scattered around two villages (Rakhi Khas and Rakhi Shahpur) in Hisar district are part of the Rakhigarhi



Excavation site RGR 7 of Archeological Survey of India, where 60 skeletons have been found in the previous excavations, at Rakhigarhi in Hisar district

archaeological site. RGR 7 is a cemetery site of the Harappan period when this was a well-organised city. The two skeletons were unearthed about two months ago by our team. And, DNA samples were collected by

experts about two weeks ago," Joint Director General, ASI, S K Manjul told PTI.

At present RGR 1, RGR 3 and RGR 7 have been taken up for investigation. Manjul, who is leading the excavation team at Rakhigarhi site, about 150 km north-west of Delhi, since it commenced on February 24, 2022, said the DNA analysis will help answer a lot of questions, anthropological or otherwise.

— PTI



Go nuts on skincare

With almonds; here are some reasons to add them to your diet and beauty routine

Ravina M Sachdev
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Almonds are loaded with zinc which is essential for brain development. But, are you aware of the beauty benefits that come with including them in your diet and beauty routine?

If you have any skin impurities, you could always use almonds as a natural exfoliator as it works well on removing dead cells from the skin. This, in turn, regenerates skin cells and leaves you with bright, glowing skin.

Have trouble with dark circles? Include almonds in your diet RN! Since they're rich in vitamin E, they can make a huge difference to adamant dark circles, and the vitamin is known to help against UV ray damage and can help lighten the patch.

Since almonds contain a fatty acid, linoleic acid, which helps prevent skin dryness, they can help combat skin dryness and promote healthy skin.

Anti-ageing

Since almonds are rich in vitamin E, they work wonders in reducing signs of ageing while also nourishing your skin. The healthy nuts help in reducing the formation of wrinkles and slow down the ageing process, thus reducing sun spots and pigmentation.

Good for a scrub

There's nothing like getting a luxurious body scrub at the spa, right? It instantly makes the skin feel well-moisturised and smooth. However, with busy schedules and long workdays, there's no way one can make it to the spa every week, but you can always create the same experience for yourself at home. Here's how to make a wonderful



almond oil body scrub at home:

- ½ cup almond oil
- 1 cup white sugar
- 3-4 vitamin E capsules

Pierce the capsules and squeeze the serum into a bowl

Add the other ingredients to it. Mix well and ensure that the consistency isn't too runny. You can always add more oil depending on the mixture.

That's it! Your spa-like scrub is ready! Apply it to your skin, scrub for a few minutes, leave it on, and wash it with your body wash. You can use the scrub once every week.

Mask it

Combine almond oil with avocados, and you've got a fabulous mask that is excellent for revitalising the skin. All you need:

- ¼ avocado
- 1 tablespoon of sweet almond oil
- 2-3 drops of rosehip oil

Mix all the ingredients together, apply it to your face, leave for 20 minutes and wash it with a gentle cleanser. You can use the mask once a week for bright, clear skin.

Sweet benefits

If your skin is extremely dry, we highly recommend using an almond oil and honey face mask. Since both the ingredients are highly nourishing, they'll work magic on your skin.

- 1 tablespoon almond oil
- ½ tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon rosewater

Take all the ingredients in a bowl, and mix well. Apply the mask on your skin. Let it stay for 15 minutes and wash it off. You can use the mask once every two weeks.

Bathe in it

The idea of taking a long, hot soak in a milk bath isn't new, on the contrary, women have been doing it for centuries, and for good reasons. There are plenty of benefits that come with immersing yourself in a hot milk bath. Almond milk especially, can help make your skin feel softer and smoother instantly as the fats in the milk cling to the skin.

- 1 cup epsom salt
- 1 cup almond milk
- 1 tablespoon of coconut oil
- A few drops of an essential oil

Mix all the ingredients well together, then add to a warm bath while the water is running. Enjoy your bath.

Put your feet up

You can churn up the ultimate scrub to make your feet smooth and silky in no time.

- 2 cups almond milk
- 1 cup of coffee grounds

Combine the almond milk and coffee grounds in a bowl. Scrub your feet with the paste in a circular motion. Rinse it off with water after a few minutes.

Other benefits

Almonds help lower cholesterol since they're packed with magnesium and potassium, which promote the free flow of oxygen throughout the body. They also build bones, and you can easily switch from your regular milk to almond milk. Munching on almonds helps in relieving aggression, making it easier for the body to calm down. The nut also helps fight depression and anxiety. So, if you find yourself feeling low, it would do good to munch on a few.

MIND, BODY & HEART



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

My partner and I are expecting our first baby next month and he's just told me he needs to be abroad for work for a week when I'm due to give birth. I literally can't believe it - he claims he can't get out of it, that it's too important, and keeps saying the baby might be late anyway. What's more important than the birth of your first child? Is it just me or does he not understand what a huge deal this is? My mum and sister have offered to be there, but it's just not the same.

I can hardly look at him right now. Any suggestions on how we move forward?

COLEEN SAYS

I don't know your husband's situation at work, so I can't see why he won't explain to his boss that his baby is due. Maybe he's worried about job security and feels he can't say no? Or perhaps he's his own boss and is trying to keep things going or land a deal that will be good for your family financially? I think he needs to weigh up carefully how he might feel afterwards if he misses the birth - he'll never get this moment again and photos or videos won't make up for it. Can he live with that? On the plus side, the baby doesn't know who's there and who isn't when they're born.

There's really no way of telling when the baby will arrive - my first was 10 days late - but try to have a conversation rather than an argument with your husband. Try to get him to see he'll never get the chance again and he may regret it. Say it's important to you that he's there for support and to share this moment.

—Coleen Nolan,
Daily Mirror



MIRRORLIGHTS

Read well

Ruskin Bond, one of the most popular fiction writers in India, recently said in an interview that reading has become a "minority pastime". If this is true, what's with all those pictures that crop up on our Instagram feeds in which people are seen reading best-selling books in aesthetic-looking cafes while sipping on lattes? When you come to think of it, very few people actually read books these days. The hobby has been reduced to a symbol of status. The few who are voracious readers are visibly smarter and



see improvement in every area of their life: career, relationships, health - you name it! If you want to be among this crème de la crème, here's what you should do.

In today's world of social media frenzy, people do a lot of things not because they genuinely enjoy them, but because they want to signal status. Reading books is one of them. With that intention, you will never be able to turn reading into a habit and put the knowledge to good use.

Naval Ravikant, one of the most revered thought leaders of our generation, recommends reading what you love until you love to read. By this he means that unless and until you don't follow your natural curiosity when it comes to picking books, you will never

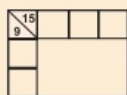
enjoy reading enough to sustain the habit.

When it comes to non-fiction, you don't have to read end to end. Sometimes, a book can be repetitive and, if you've got the point it's trying to make, it's all right to move on to another one. After all, you're reading to learn, not to prove that you read something till the end.

Just because content is presented in the form of a book, it doesn't necessarily make it smarter. Some books simply don't add value and it's okay to put them down. Don't allow boredom to break your momentum. —Ritu Ailani

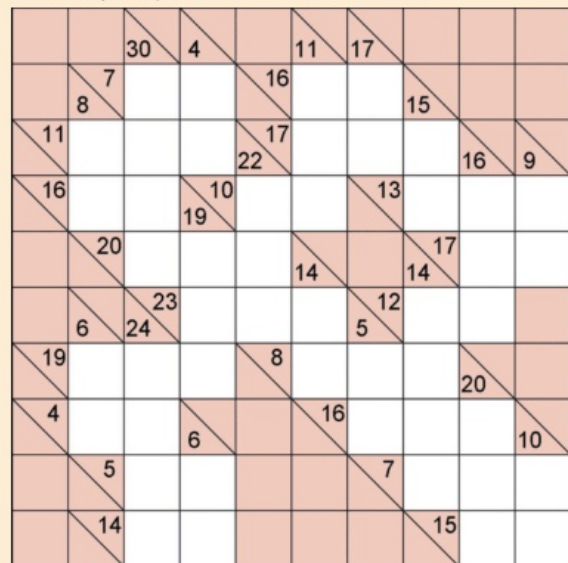
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

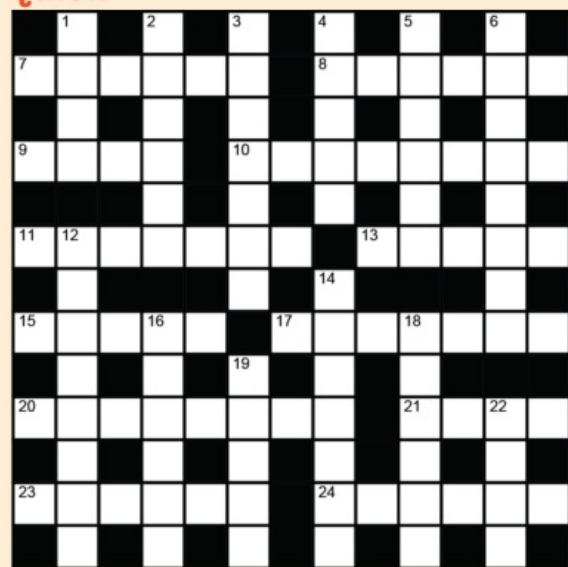


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 7 A light boat (6)
- 8 Capital of the Czech Republic (6)
- 9 Delivery vehicles (4)
- 10 Item of jewellery (8)
- 11 Royally or kingly (7)
- 13 Maulana Abul ___ Azad (5)
- 15 Florida city (5)
- 17 Single occasion (3,4)
- 20 Das Kapital author (4,4)
- 21 Animal's quarry (4)
- 23 Edit, prepare for publication (6)
- 24 Day-care centre (6)

DOWN

- 1 Zhivago's heroine (4)
- 2 Today's Iran (6)
- 3 Find fault with; bicker or nag (7)
- 4 Spread out (5)
- 5 All-rounder Ravindra ___ (6)
- 6 Tepid; not enthusiastic or indifferent (4-4)
- 12 United Arab ___? (8)
- 14 Imprecise (7)
- 16 Cuisine which is a fusion of Kodava and Mangalorean (6)
- 18 Struck light blows (6)
- 19 Eccentric (5)
- 22 Reflected sound (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS U
HD VQO EQOSIBX SHMU SQRP,
SHMU EUSS, DQT DQSSV CRI
EHJAUIRUBB BLQTXUR SHDU.



Linemaro

You are what I want for my birthday



Mindchow

A free society is a society where it is safe to be unpopular



Joke of the day

Q: If H2O is on the inside of a fire hydrant, what's on the outside? A: K9P

Loop

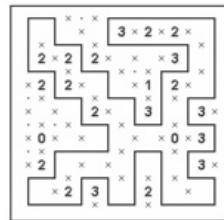
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

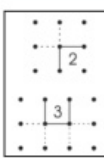
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

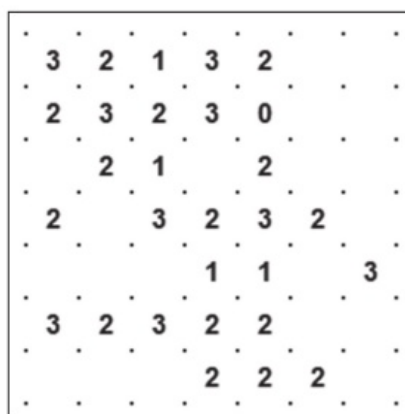
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



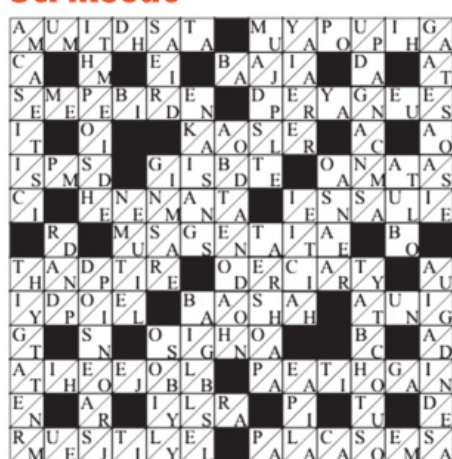
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

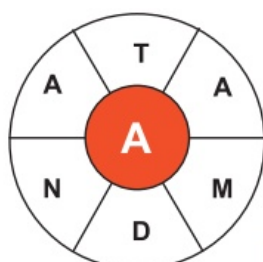
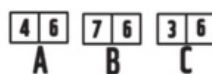
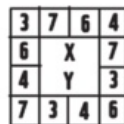
- 1 Arhat; 6 At ire;
- 7 Tiara; 8 Skit I;
- 9 Tucks

DOWN

- 1 Sitar; 2 Art it;
- 3 Auk hi; 4 Tacit;
- 5 Rakes

Mensapuzzle

Which of the pairs of numbers at the bottom should be placed at X and Y so that each row of four numbers - across, down and diagonally - totals 20?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; 02 Good; 03 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

1 8 9 9 = 11

Medium

1 1 4 8 = 31

Hard

2 5 6 5 = 35

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Water drop is moved. 2. Apron bow is missing. 3. Leg is moved. 4. Shoulder strap is different. 5. Arm is longer. 6. Cap is different.

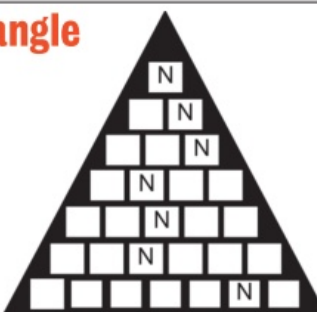
Riddler

What term is represented by the given rebus? ACT_O_

Alpha triangle

- 1 Direction in short
- 2 Not out
- 3 Racket
- 4 Author Blyton
- 5 Eatery
- 6 Fire offshoot
- 7 Cancel officially

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, the moon is positive. You may have some sort of energy and may be able to perform well at work. You may help some needy person, which may boost your prestige. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff. You may also plan for higher studies to groom your career.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, you may be busy with children's career or extra curriculum activities. You may take some advice from someone to choose career options. You may meet consultants or specialists also. You may hear good news from kids. You may also invest some capital into your family business.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Until afternoon, you may be upset. Later blessings may protect you from messy situations. Your willpower may help you to complete delayed projects. It is advised to avoid arguments in domestic life. By the evening, you may have gains in terms of past investments.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today, until evening, you may be impatient and lack of confidence, which may reflect in your way of working. Parents' health may upset you. Children's notorious behaviour may make you upset. You should try to focus. Investments in risky assets must be avoided.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

You must control your way of speaking. Be careful in terms of hidden enemies and opponents. You may be a victim of conspiracy. Avoid lending money to anyone; it may be not recoverable. You are advised to pray to deal with trouble. Love birds are advised not to be involved in controversies. Students must work hard.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today, the moon is not positive. There are chances that you may not feel well and have health issues. You are advised not to make investments in new business projects, otherwise you may face losses. Students are advised to avoid fantasy and must work hard in studies. You are also asked to avoid rash driving.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

You may be happy. You are likely to plan an overseas work trip, which will boost business in the near future. Spending money on luxurious stuff may improve your lifestyle. But you are advised not to drive yourself towards glamour or addictions; it may affect your financial health.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Job seekers may get new jobs. There are chances of promotions in the current job. You may get new clients, which will help grow your business. Singles are likely to find a good match. Avoid hiding anything from your spouse.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

You may have mental peace. You are likely to be busy with friends and family. You may enjoy your domestic life; it may increase understanding with your spouse. There is a new partnership in your business. New innovations may help your business to grow. Disputes in partnerships may be resolved now.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Control your way of speaking or your harsh speaking may affect your family's harmony. You may spend hard earned money on worthless stuff to maintain your social status.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today is a day for success in terms of profession. Your plans may yield positive results in terms of profits. There may be good news related to your past investments in terms of gains. Your creativity may help you to improve your professional skills. Job seekers are likely to get a suitable job. Students may have good focus. You may be able to understand your spouse.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Your good health may make you happy. Your health-related issues may be resolved. You may control worthless expenditures and new sources of income may open up to boost your financial health. Singles may find soulmates in the same community.



KIDZONE



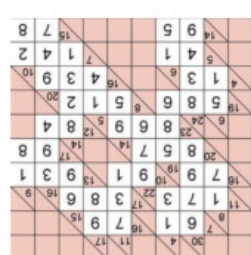
Vyshnavi S, 4 Years, CETVI School



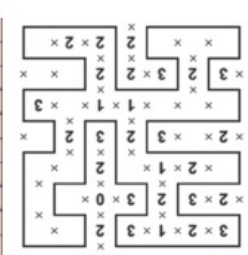
Arush Halder, 8 Years, Shishya BEML Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

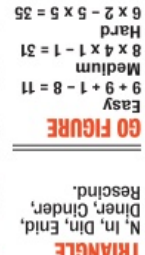
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



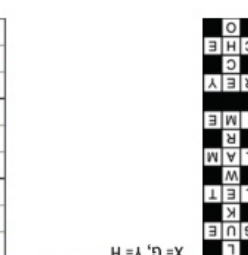
LOOP



ALPHA



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULLS' EYE



SOLVE IN 1M

Mum's the word indeed

Two leading ladies have inspiring words for all wonderful women out there



Malaika Arora



Sushmita Sen

On Mother's Day, two of B-Town's strongest women shared messages. Malaika Arora, spoke about how being a single mom, she still chased her dreams and lives life on her own terms. Sushmita Sen spoke about how being a mother has made her a warrior and a peacenik at the same time.

Sharing her life experience through a video on Instagram, Malaika wrote, "This will end your career!" is what people said when I was expecting. Back then, after marriage, you'd barely see an actress on screen. But being raised by women who advocated being independent, I knew motherhood just meant I was to essay one more role—the role of mom! I worked through my pregnancy—shuttling shows, & rehearsals. And when Arhaan was born, I promised to give him the world. I also promised myself—I won't lose my identity in the process of being a mom. Ever since, I've lived up to both the promises. 2 months after delivery, I performed at an award show. I was proud of myself because I also made it back home in time to tuck Arhaan in bed. Knowing that I could juggle motherhood & work empowered me. In fact, I said yes to Karan for Kaal Dhamaal a year after delivery!"

Sushmita Sen shared how being a mother has made her both a warrior and a peacenik. For Sushmita, "Motherhood is truly a state of grace and strength."

Elaborating on the same, the actress, who is a mother of two, said, "She (a mother) can be both a warrior and a peacenik at the same time. In both seasons of Hotstar Specials 'Aarya', I challenged myself as a woman and as a mother. In real life, too, I raised two daughters single-handedly and entertained viewers for decades."

Haters make Mandira go 'no comments'



Celebrities often find themselves at the receiving end of trolling on social media. Mandira Bedi is one of the actors who have faced negativity on the internet for one reason or another. Only recently she was once again targeted by trolls.

A few days ago, Mandira posted a string of pool images with her male friend on Instagram. In the pictures, she is seen sporting a bikini while enjoying quality time with her pal.

"Happy Birthday Adi. This photograph says it all. What you mean to me. How long we have known each other. What our equation is. And how much I trust you (to do this in #covidtimes) #sumsitup. May more happiness, love and success find its way to you. Love you, my dearest friend from the age of 17! @adimots," she captioned the post.

However, Mandira's pool images did not go down well with a section of social media users. Several netizens passed demeaning remarks against her. Some even criticised her for celebrating her male friend's birthday since it has been one year since her husband Raj Kaushal passed away.

Such hatred comments led Mandira to disable her comments section on the particular Instagram post.

Two days after facing trolling, Mandira went on to share a cryptic post that read, "gratitude, growth, grace. Alongside the picture, she wrote, "Always the intent and the attempt."

For the unversed, Mandira's husband and filmmaker Raj Kaushal died of cardiac arrest in June 2021. ANI

-ANI

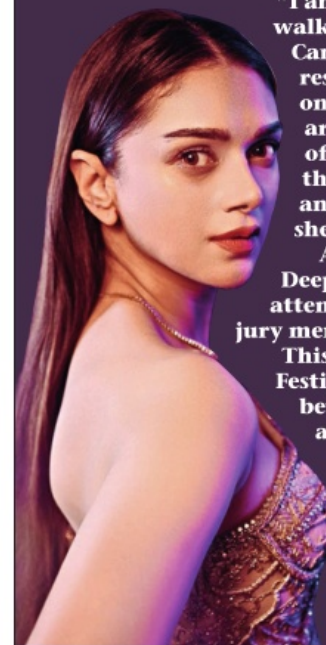
Aditi Rao Hydari to make debut at Cannes

Actor Aditi Rao Hydari is all set to make her debut at Cannes Film Festival 2022. Aditi will represent smartphone brand Vivo India at the 75th edition of the festival.

"I am excited and thrilled to walk the red carpet of the Cannes Film Festival to represent the brand and India on the global stage. As an artist myself, being a part of a prestigious institution that celebrates cinema is an exhilarating feeling," she said.

Apart from Aditi, actor Deepika Padukone will also attend Cannes 2022 but as a jury member.

This year's Cannes Film Festival will take place between May 17 to May 26 and the organisers will be axing COVID-19 curbs ahead of its 75th edition. They won't be testing attendees, as it did last year, and will not institute a mask mandate. -ANI



Disha joins Prabhas, Deepika for 'Project K'

Actor Disha Patani is set to star in Nag Ashwin's tentatively titled movie "Project K", alongside Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, and Amitabh Bachchan.

Billed as a multilingual sci-fi film, the upcoming feature is backed by production banner Vyjayanthi Movies.

The actor took to her Instagram Story on late Saturday night to share the photo of a gift hamper sent by the makers of the movie.

"Dear Disha, Project K welcomes you. We are thrilled to have you on board," read the note signed by Vyjayanthi Movies.

Patani, known for films such as "Malang" and "Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai", will play an "interesting role"

in "Project K".

Filmmaker Ashwin is best known for directing the National Award-winning 2018 biographical drama "Mahanati". -PTI

Good vibes only for Kartik

Kartik Aaryan is busy promoting his upcoming film 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2'. During an interaction with a website, he was asked if he feels like an outsider in the industry, even after working in several hit films.

The actor stated that he doesn't feel like that from any production house. He added that everyone is happy with what he is doing and one can quickly get the vibe while entering the room.

Kartik went on to say that in the film industry, a lot of miscommunications happen. He corrected himself and said that it happens in every industry. He then stated that sometimes it is good and sometimes you lose the job. He said the industry is changing and going through a good phase. He credited this good phase to the emergence of OTT. Kartik concluded by saying that he thinks about the growth of the industry.

